I pay for the XM radio service so that I can listen to a better variety of music in a way that's safer than fumbling with CDs while driving, and provides the same content as I drive across the country; as I visit relatives in other states, I'm always driving out of range of "normal" radio stations, so "normal" radio is inadequate for this kind of driving.

I also like the traffic reports which are targeted to my market and repeat so often (not every 10 minutes) that I can turn in to them, get the update, and then turn back to music when I want; this is characateristically a different and better kind of service.

In terms of local markets, FM and AM radio are suffering from their "lowest common denominator" programming, not from innovative competitors. Each station is trying to capture as many listeners as possible (undertandable), but this leaves us with many FM stations that all sound the same, and none that have content that I'm interested in. If more stations were locally owned and operated, I think there would be more variety and more viability.

Thanks for considering my opinion

Scott